



Our value for the month of September is
"Honesty".

"Better to have little and be fair than to have
too much and be dishonest." Proverbs 16:8

Welcome Back!

Welcome back to all of our school community. It has been lovely to talk to lots of parents this week on the playground and feel the positive vibe in and around the school.



Thank you to all the staff that were in school over the holidays, working hard to make their classroom environments ready and preparing for the term. Unfortunately having cleared out the Reception

outdoor area for re-surfacing over the holidays, the company let us down. So apologies for some of the areas around that area looking a little untidy - it will be sorted when the skip arrives! All the staff came together more formally last Friday and using Edward de Bono's 'Thinking Hats' to focus our thinking, we discussed the school priorities for the year.



Dominic, our new Deacon came into school on Monday morning and joined me in an informal welcome for some of our Reception parents. He then spent some time in classes, talking with the children.

In collective worship, in the afternoon we thought about how we were feeling before we came into school and how those feelings may have changed throughout the day. Some of the children were feeling nervous, but



later in the day were feeling more confident. I showed the children different emoji to represent how I was feeling and they were very good at identifying them. We discussed ways in which we could help each other feel welcome and one way was just to smile.



A New Start

We would like to extend a special welcome to any of our children who are starting St. Michael's for the first time. Also to Mrs. Fekete who is in Year 6 on a Thursday and Friday and Mrs Poultney who is new to the Office. September is a really busy time in school, particularly the first week back and I would like to thank Mrs. Blythe for all the support she has given Mrs. Poultney and myself in our first week.

The Walking Bus

Thank you to Mrs McGuiness who has kindly stepped in this week to lead the walking bus from the village hall. If there are any parents (who have DBS clearance) who would be willing to help out with this, please let the Office know a.s.a.p.

Uniform Reminders

The children have returned looking really smart for their first week. However, please remember that no jewellery apart from crosses and small plain metal studs should be worn. On P.E. days it is better for earrings to be left at home, if at all possible. Hair that is over shoulder length should be completely tied back with a plain band or scrunchie in the school colours please. No nail varnish should be worn.

Parking

Please do not use the school car park at drop off and pick up times. As you know the car park is very small and the children have to walk across it to access the playground on their way into school and leaving school at the end of the day.

Below is a plea from the Parish Council:

FROM WOOLMER GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

Parents who drop their children off at school please use the hall car park where you can join the walking bus. It is much safer than parking on the busy road and considerate to residents and pedestrians. **Also please never park on the grass verge outside Church House;** as it is dangerous pulling out onto the busy B197, poses a risk to pedestrians (including children) using the footpath, obstructs the view of drivers exiting the allotments as well as causing damage by churning up the verge and making it look unsightly. Thank you for your co-operation.

Lunchtimes

The children were reminded yesterday about behaviour at lunchtimes and good manners. We are lucky to have at least seven Midday Supervisors everyday and we talked about what would make their jobs easier.

We know that the playground area at St. Michael's is very small, so from next Monday we will trial an even greater staggered lunchtime:

Reception 11:45-12:45pm
Years 1 and 2 12 - 1pm
Years 3 and 4 12:15 - 1:15pm
Years 5 and 6 12:30 - 1:30pm

The children have been told about this and we will monitor how it works.



The Website

We have two new documents that will go on the school website; one is 'Advertising and Sponsorship Arrangements' for the school and the other is a 'Parental Code of Conduct'. The Code of Conduct will also be parent mailed to you next week. We are not asking for a signed copy, as by being responsible parents/carers at our school we know you will support us by setting a good example and being good role models for our children.

Parent Council

The parent council met on several occasions last year and it provided a useful forum for parents to hear about planned school initiatives and discuss different ideas. Mrs. Leake and Mrs. Woods are the teachers who have kindly agreed to chair these meetings and the first one this term will be held on Wednesday 20th September at 9am. If you were a part of this group last year we would like to welcome you back and if there are any other interested parents who would like to join the group, please let the Office know. It would be good to have our new Reception parents represented.

The focus of the next meeting will be feedback from the transition meetings and looking at a different way of reporting on our children's progress.

Clubs

Please see the table and attached letters for clubs. Please note start dates, as most begin on the week beginning 18th September, but a few start next week.

If the clubs are not run by school staff, please liaise directly with the provider, although the Office will still collect forms and pass these on. (In an envelope please, with details on the front). All clubs will give us a register so that we can let teachers know.

St Michael's Choir

Choir starts again next week in a new slot on Friday lunchtime. Mrs. Wadey, Mrs. Hewitt and Mrs. Golding are looking forward to welcoming back their Year 4, 5 and 6 singers and welcoming new members from Year 3. Mrs. Wadey will send round a sign-up sheet next week.

Club	Day	Year group	Provider	Location
Dance	Monday after school		Mrs Lewis	Hall
French	Monday after school	Yrs 1-2	Hayley Lloyd Williams	Library
Tag Rugby	Tuesday after school	Yrs 5-6	Miss Prentice	Year 4
French	Wednesday lunchtime	Yrs 3-6	Hayley Lloyd Williams	Library
Drama	Wednesday after school	Yrs 1-2	Mrs Love	Hall
Christian Club	Wednesday after school		St. Michael's Church	The Church
Netball	Wednesday after school	Yrs 5-6	Mrs Fincham Miss Rolland	Year 6
Football	Thursday after school	Yrs 1-6	Stevenage Football Club	The School Field
Choir	Friday lunchtime (Children will sign up)	Yrs 3-6	Mrs Wadey, Mrs Hewitt Mrs Golding	Library
Drama	Friday after school	Yrs 3-4	Mrs Love	Hall
Table Tennis	Lunchtimes (Children have signed up)	Year 6	Miss Prentice	Year 4

What's On:

11.9.'17-Year 6 Transition Meeting 9am
12.9.'17-Year 5 Transition Meeting 9am
13.9.'17-Year 3 transition Meeting 9am
PM-Year 3 Multi-Sports Festival
14.9.'17-Year 1 Transition Meeting 9am
15.9.'17-Year 5 Running Festival
20.9.'17-Parent Council 9am
Year 4 Tag Rugby Festival
3.10.'17-The Friends AGM 7:30pm for 8pm start (cheese and wine)
23.10.'17-Half Term



St. Michael's Woolmer Green C of E School

Autumn Term News

Week ending 8th September 2017

